

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/697,540

Applicant(s)

DOUGLAS ET AL.

Examiner

Aurangzeb Hassan

Art Unit

2182

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 1/26/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-8, 11-16 and 19-24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Watson (Reg. No. 46,322) on 2/6/2007, to confirm the cancellation of claims 25 – 29 as indicated in the remark.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Watson (Reg. No. 46,322) on 2/12/2007, to provide description of an article in claim 19 and provide practical application in the independent claims.

In the Claims

5. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 3, line 11, after "virtual ID" add "and associating the virtual ID with a group of at least two devices."

Claim 5, line 9, after "virtual ID" add "and associating the virtual ID with a group of at least two devices."

Claim 11, line 11, after "virtual ID" add "and associating the virtual ID with a group of at least two devices."

Claim 13, line 8, after "virtual ID" add "and associating the virtual ID with a group of at least two devices."

Claim 19, line 11, after "virtual ID" add "and associating the virtual ID with a group of at least two devices."

Claim 19, line 1, change "An article comprising:" to "An article comprising: a storage medium having stored therein instructions that when executed by a machine result in the following:"

Claims 25 – 29 are cancelled.

Examiner's Comments

6. The After Final Amendment received on 1/26/2007 (page 2 from "In the claims" and page 8 from "Remarks") contains language to cancel claims 25 – 29, however the claims (pages 6 and 7 of "In the Claims") do not have the mentioned claims listed as

cancelled. The above examiner's amendment to ensure canceling of claims 25 – 29 was agreed to by the applicant via telephonic interview.

The claims 3, 5, 11, 13 and 19 were amended to ensure practical application of the data manipulation expressed. The above examiner's amendment to add association of the data to a device was agreed to by the applicant via telephonic interview.

The "article" as described in claim 19 did not recite explicitly describe structure. In order to provide complete claim language the Examiner referred to claim 17 previously presented on 6/15/2006 to elaborate what is comprised in the article of claim 19. The above examiner's amendment was agreed to by the applicant via telephonic interview.

Conclusion

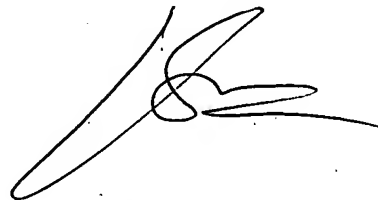
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aurangzeb Hassan whose telephone number is (571) 272-8625. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Huynh can be reached on (571) 272-4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2182

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AH



KIM HUYNH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

2/12/07